

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, March 28, 2016

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, March 28, 2016, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairman Bento called the meeting to order at approximately 7:07 PM.

Present: John Bento, Chairman; Paul Silva, Vice-Chairman; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Marjorie McBride, Treasurer; Diana Campbell, William O'Dell, John Saviano, Erin Schofield and Lynn Wainwright; Mario J. Andrade, Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Assistant Superintendent; Mary Almeida, Director of Literacy & Title 1; Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Services; Pauline Silva, Director of Administration and Finance, Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor; and George Simmons, Facilities Director

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Chairman Bento stated, for the record, that an Executive Session

would not be necessary for personnel recommendations, and that Recommendation #S2016-15 - Bond Counsel Services, would be struck from the agenda.

Chairman Bento welcomed Boy Scout Troop 25 to the meeting. The troop was present to monitor the School Committee meeting in order to complete their civic duty requirement.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

RECOMMENDATION #S2016-01

All items listed with an asterisk on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the School Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member requests, in which event the items will be withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda. Hearing none, Chairman Bento requested a motion.

Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McBride made a motion to seal the minutes of the February 22, 2016 and March 14, 2016 meetings; seconded by Mr. Silva. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Andrade welcomed Dr. Deborah DiBiase who was appointed as

Mt. Hope High School's new principal. Dr. Andrade shared highlights of Dr. DiBiase's diverse and accomplished work history. Dr. Andrade stated that he is very happy with the appointment of Dr. DiBiase as principal of Mt. Hope High School.

School Committee members exuberantly welcomed Dr. DiBiase as the new Mt. Hope High School principal.

S2016-12 A-G: CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of High School Principal and Accounting Clerk I as listed below:

1. Deborah J. DiBiase Principal – Mt. Hope High

Effective: July 1, 2016

**Reason: To fill a vacancy
(Retirement – D. Rebello)**

Funding: Operational Budget

2. Christine S. MacNeil Accounting Clerk I

Effective: March 28, 2016

**Reason: To fill a vacancy
(Transfer – J. Harrington)**

Funding: Operational Budget

B. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):

1. Melissa M. Andrade Senior Child Care Provider (Part-Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

2. Tucker D. Kohlasch Senior Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

C. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2015-16 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

SPRING COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 1. Baseball (Boys) Asst. Coach Ralph Guerriero**
- 2. Baseball-Pitching/Catching Asst. Coach Manny DaSilva ***
- 3. Baseball (Boys) Volunteer Coach Paul Cirillo ***
- 4. Baseball (Boys) Volunteer Coach Joseph Simeone ***
- 5. Track (Outdoor) Asst. Coach Aaron Filipe**

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

Sport Position Coach

- 6. Baseball Head Coach Joshua Hunt**
- 7. Baseball Asst. Coach Louis Costa ***
- 8. Baseball Volunteer Coach Joseph Simeone ***

CLUB COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

Sport Position Coach

- 9. Lacrosse (Boys) ** Head Coach Dylan Levesque ***
- 10. Lacrosse (Girls) ** Head Coach Michael Kane**
- 11. Lacrosse (Girls) Volunteer Coach Paul Ricks ***

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**** Funded by parents group**

D. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

- 1. Andrea L. Chase General Subject Matter**

2. Anne M. Field General Subject Matter

3. Kevin C. Fletcher General Subject Matter

4. James P. Kennedy III General Subject Matter

5. Hannah A. Loeb Music

6. Robert E. Pirri General Subject Matter

7. Kiera L. Regan General Subject Matter

8. Miriam T. Schaerf General Subject Matter

E. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

SECRETARIAL

1. Maria A. Drysdale

2. Melissa Pattie

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

3. Melissa Pattie

4. Megan E. Sylvia

5. Kristin Towers

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE

6. Wayne A. Chapman

F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for an Elementary Special Educator as follows:

1. Amy E. McKenna Special Educator - Rockwell

Effective: May 1, 2016, for up to 13

weeks

Reason: Maternity leave in

accordance with Article 21,

Section

L1 of the Master Agreement

G. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Robert J. Arsenault from the position of Secondary Music Teacher and Andrea D. LaRue from the position of Child Care Bookkeeper as listed below:

1. Robert J. Arsenault Music Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: June 30, 2016

Reason: Retirement

2. Andrea D. LaRue Child Care Bookkeeper

Effective: March 8, 2016

Reason: Personal

RECOMMENDATION #S2016-13

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of two (2) families to home school their children for the 2015-2016 school year, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the home school requests, seconded by Mrs. Campbell.

Discussion: Mrs. McBride stated, for the record, that she would be dissenting due to the lateness of the homeschool requests.

The motion passed with 7-1 vote; Mrs. McBride dissenting.

RECOMMENDATION #S2016-14

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve Colt Andrews School Drainage Bid.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve Colt Andrews School Drainage Bid; seconded by Mr. O'Dell.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. McBride stated that the bid recommendation

awards to the lowest bidder, Landscaping Services.

Mr. Simmons, Facilities Director, stated that the work will begin during April vacation with an anticipated finish date of June 30th. The work will only be in progress when students are not in school.

The motion to award the Colt Andrews School Drainage Bid to Landscaping Services passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION #S2016-16

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the transfer of \$50,000 for switches and \$25,000 for furniture to the equipment line.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the transfer of \$50,000 for switches and \$25,000 for furniture to the equipment line; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Andrade stated that the work on the switches will begin immediately, and the furniture will be in place by June 30th.

A School Committee member asked for clarification on the line item transfer. Mrs. Silva clarified the reasoning behind the request. Mrs. McBride added that the transfer is for the purpose of spending.

Mr. Saviano asked the Superintendent to explain about flexible furniture.

Dr. Andrade described the uses and benefits of flexible furniture which allows students to sit, stand or pedal at their desk. He stated that the flexible furniture implementation will start out small with model classrooms to allow teachers to observe and buy-in to the concept. The goal is to accelerate implementation and the use of innovative furniture moving forward.

The motion passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION #S2016-17

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve emergency repair replacement of faulty electrical panels at Hugh Cole School.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve emergency repair replacement of faulty electrical panels at Hugh Cole School; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Simmons stated that the older electrical panels that were installed in many municipal buildings in the 1950s and 1960s are deemed unsafe due to risk of fire and need to be either retrofitted or replaced immediately. Rhode Island Interlocal Trust, the

District's insurance company, put the District on notice that the panels at Hugh Cole School are unsafe and need to be replaced immediately. Mr. Simmons added that the particular panels currently in place at Hugh Cole School cannot be retrofitted and must be replaced.

Mr. Simmons stated that the work to replace the faulty electrical panels will take place over a 4 to 5 week period, as school vacation time allows. He added that the work to replace the electrical panels is very involved. He commented that the replacement of the faulty electrical panels will not be complete prior to July 1st.

The motion for emergency replacement of faulty electrical panels passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION #S2016-18

That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the Interlibrary Loan Policy.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the first reading of the Interlibrary Loan Policy; seconded by Mrs. Wainwright.

DISCUSSION: There was no discussion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee/School Committee Reports & Initiatives

Budget/Facilities Subcommittee

Mrs. McBride commented that she hopes to see everyone at Thursday night's Joint Finance Committee meeting which will be held in the new Kickemuit Middle School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. The District will be receiving the bottom line budget for next year.

Mrs. McBride stated that Dr. Andrade will be providing his report to the subcommittee on the status of the Mt. Hope High School Field project.

Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee

Mrs. Schofield thanked the School Committee for passing the first reading of the Interlibrary Loan Policy. Mrs. Schofield shared the background behind the implementation of the Interlibrary Loan Policy.

Mrs. Schofield stated that the next Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 4, 2016, at the Oliver Administration Building where the focus of the meeting will be a preliminary discussion on the 1:1 Chromebook Initiative.

Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee

Mr. Silva stated that there was nothing new to report.

Wellness Subcommittee

Mrs. Wainwright shared the results of a recent employee wellness survey conducted by Carlin Weirwick, Wellness Program Specialist, with The Trust.

Ms. Weirwick will plan a couple of health related programs in response to the survey. The programs will be conducted between now and the end of the school year.

Mrs. Wainwright commented that funding for the District's wellness programs comes from money the District sets aside as mandated in the Affordable Care Act.

Mrs. Wainwright shared several initiatives that have been implemented to encourage wellness among students.

Mrs. Wainwright shared information regarding the 3rd Annual Bristol Warren Family Resource Fair that will be held at the Quinta-Gamelin Community Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 9, 2016.

Mrs. Wainwright stated that other family-related educational and activity opportunities can be found by visiting the Bristol-Warren Thrive by Five and Beyond Facebook page.

Chairperson's Initiatives

External Training Credit

Chairman Bento, by way of review, shared the guidance provided by RIASC regarding the requirement that School Committee members participate in six hours of Professional Development. The External Training Credit form allows School Committee members to request approval for training outside of RIASCs offerings.

Mrs. Campbell asked whether or not presentations conducted through the District and presented during School Committee meetings would meet the criteria of RIASC for external training approval. She suggested putting together a proposal for RIASC of "in-house" School Committee Professional Development.

Chairman Bento directed Mrs. Campbell to follow through on her proposal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:38 PM

Pursuant to Open Meetings Laws 42-46-5 (a)(2) an Executive Session will be held to discuss the following:

- 1. Legal Advice re: Town of Warren Litigation**

Chairman Bento stated, for the record, that no action will be taken during the executive session. The Open Session will reconvene only to adjourn.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to go into Executive Session

at 7:38 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:03 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:04 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride motioned to adjourn the Open Session at 8:04 PM; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/kd